

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back to everyone. I hope you all had a lovely break and enjoyed some quality time with loved ones. We had some amazing seas at Land's End and I understand it was a little breezy across Dorset!

At the end of term, you will have seen that our website changed to mirror all schools across the Trust. Over the next few weeks we will update it with all the information that was previously found. I know the children involved in the photo shoot enjoyed themselves.

On a similar note; the report you receive home at the end of next week will be in a format consistent across schools in the Trust. In addition to this you will receive information next week regarding our upcoming parents' evenings. We have maintained the option of seeing multiple staff, rather than just three, as previous years.

Training day on Tuesday was focused on assessment and moderation across all subject areas. It was also a great opportunity for Mrs Etheridge to meet the Science team and hit the ground running. They will also be meeting regularly, during the coming term, as the stability in the department improves.

Another key item on Tuesday was centred around our expectations of our pupils. The following four key principles are a focus for this term, taken from our A2L (attitude to learning) grades. I would be grateful for your support at home by talking to your children about how these have gone this week -

1. Demonstrate high motivation to learn
2. Accept responsibility for their own learning
3. Actively seeks advice to improve their work
4. Supports others' learning in the class

Returning from maternity, Mrs Webster is looking forward to her art and textiles lessons with the pupils. It is lovely to see her back, and therefore enable us to keep the versatile Mrs McGraw to cover the timetable of Ms Hinchliffe. Mr Moloney, new to us, and Mr Jones, cover initially for Mr Foord, have also enjoyed their week in school meeting the pupils in their Maths, PE and Hums lessons. Finally, but not least, great to see Mr Brenton back. Talking to him yesterday I really felt the buzz he had from working alongside our amazing pupils. I have to say it feels much more settled in school this week.

Finally, those who have been into the reception area will see a change in colour and display. This redecoration will take place across the whole of the school on a rolling programme. The colour combination is contemporary and I hope you appreciate the quality of the art work produced by our talented pupils.

Welcome to 2018, one that I am sure will be filled with happiness and success, as we all move forward as a school community.

Have a great weekend,

Rob Christopher

The new display in reception

